

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 02803 041026Z

43

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 ACDA-05 /073 W

----- 008493

R 040930Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8417

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 2803

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, VN, JA, CH

SUBJ: DRV-JAPAN RELATIONS: NEGOTIATIONS NEAR CONCLUSION

REF: TOKYO 1034 (AND PREVIOUS)

SUMMARY: TOKYO AND HANOI FINALLY NEAR CONCLUSION OF EXTENDED TALKS ON ESTABLISHING EMBASSIES AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, ESSENTIALLY AGREEING TO PROPOSALS MADE LAST FALL BY GOJ. JAPAN'S EMBASSY SHOULD OPEN IN HANOI WITHIN MONTH. IN TALKS, GOJ MAINTAINED FIRM POSITION REFUSING TO GRANT OFFICIAL RECOGNITION TO PRG. END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 02803 041026Z

1. YEAR AND HALF OLD NEGOTIATIONS WITH HANOI FINALLY APPEAR NEAR CONCLUSION WHICH FONOFF PROPOSED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO. DURING JUST COMPLETED SWING TO SE ASIA, FIRST SE ASIA DIRECTOR HANABUSA PARTICIPATED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH HANOI REPS IN VIENTIANE WHERE FINAL AGREEMENT WAS APPARENTLY REACHED. NEGOTIATIONS WILL END SOON WITH NO COMMUNIQUE. GOJ PLANS TO OPEN EMBASSY, HEADED BY CHARGE, FIRST SECRETARY INAYAMA FROM GOJ EMBASSY VIENTIANE, AND ONE OTHER OFFICER, INITIALLY OCCUPYING HOTEL SUITE IN HANOI. STAFF EXPECTED TO BE BOOSTED TO FOUR BY END OF YEAR. GOJ WILL NAME AMBASSADOR ONLY AFTER SUITABLE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE, PROBABLY AFTER LONG DELAY. HANOI, PRESUMABLY, WILL OPEN EMBASSY FAIRLY SOON IN TOKYO BUT DETAILS ARE NOT YET KNOWN.

2. OTHER FACETS OF NEGOTIATIONS UNCHANGED. HANABUSA SAID GOJ REMAINED ABSOLUTELY FIRM ON NON-RECOGNITION OF PRG. AID WILL BE EXTENDED AS OUTLINED PREVIOUSLY, FIVE BILLION YEN GRANT ASSISTANCE INITIALLY WITH REMAINDER (FOR TOTAL OF 12 TO 14 PLUS BILLION) TO BE NEGOTIATED SUBSEQUENTLY.

3. ON BASIS OF PARTICIPATION IN TALKS, HANABUSA HAS RETURNED TO HIS EARLIER ASSESSMENT THAT HANOI'S PRIME MOTIVATION IN ACCEPTING GOJ'S OFFER WAS FINANCIAL. JAPAN IS ONLY SOURCE (ASIDE OBVIOUSLY FROM US) OF COMPATIBLE PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENTAL TECHNOLOGY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE (AS OPPOSED TO MILITARY HARDWARE FROM USSR AND PRC) TO WHICH HANOI CAN HOPE TO TURN FOR BADLY NEEDED FUNDS. DESPITE USE TO WHICH HANOI PUTS RESOURCES IN SVN, HANABUSA STILL HOPES TO USE ASSISTANCE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS AS LEVERAGE TO MODERATE HANOI'S POLICIES. HE ALSO NOTED ADVANTAGES TO JAPAN AND US OF TOKYO'S IMMINENT CAPABILITY OF CARRYING ON CONTINUING DIALOGUE WITH HANOI.

4. HANABUSA GAINED THE FIRM IMPRESSION THAT HANOI IS NOT PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE PRG. WHILE HE ANTICIPATES THAT HANOI WILL SUSTAIN PRG INTERNATIONALLY AND IN SVN AT MINIMAL LEVELS, HANABUSA NOTED THAT HANOI REPS MADE NO REAL PLEA DURING RECENT TALKS FOR JAPAN TO PER-

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PAGE 03 TOKYO 02803 041026Z

MIT PRG TO OPEN AN OFFICE IN TOKYO. HE DOUBTS WHETHER HANOI HAS DECIDED BY WHICH AVENUE TO PURSUE ITS ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE - TAKEOVER OF SVN - A) BY COALITION INCLUDING THE PRG OR B) BY DIRECT TAKEOVER SOME POINT YEARS HENCE WHEN SAIGON'S GOVERNMENT MAY BE "IN EXTREMIS" LIKE LON NOL'S GKR AT PRESENT.

5. COMMENT: SUCCESS, AT LAST, SHOULD PROVIDE MARGINAL

POLITICAL GAIN DOMESTICALLY AND HELP GOJ IN JOUSTING
WITH LEFT OPPOSITION CRITICS IN DIET OF STATE OF RELA-
TIONS WITH COMMUNISTS IN NVN AND NORTH KOREA. DIALOGUE
WITH HANOI HANABUSA DESCRIBES WILL BE TWO WAY ROUTE AND
WILL AFFORD DRV A VOICE IN JAPAN FOR ADVOCACY OF, AMONG
OTHER THINGS, RECOGNITION OF PRG. DESPITE FIRM POSITION
ON PRG IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH HANOI, WE HAVE NOTICED SOME
WAFFLING BY GOJ, ABOUT WHICH WE ARE REPORTING SEPARATELY.
HODGSON

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